

# GrACE NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREENVILLE ATARI COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS

VOLUME:5

NUMBER: 9

SEPTEMBER 15, 1987

MEETING: SEPTEMBER 15th  
DOORS OPEN AT 7:00pm  
GRIER MEMORIAL ARP CHURCH

I want to thank the people who took part in last months meeting. I know we had some problems and I appreciate your efforts THANKS!!! (A special thanks to Craig Tompkins who did a good job in the face of adversity.)

As for this month, Kevin Kingsmore is going to show us PC **Ditto**, The IBM Emulator for the ST. Also ED Culbertson is going to show us **BALANCE OF POWER** by Mindscape. This program is about 'Geopolitics in the Nuclear Age. "What did you say?"

And for the 8-bit, Doug Slagh is going to take us on a trip to the stars. Doug is going to demo **Planetarium**, Atari's new astronomy program.

We're also going to open the floor for a question and answer time. So if you have any thing you would like to share or any questions you would like to ask, bring them with you to the meeting.

Also we'll have the disk librarians tell us what they have on there disk of the month. REMEMBER the cost is \$2.00 for 8-bit and \$3.00 for 16-bit disks (non members \$1.00 additional charge).

So join us Tuesday, September 15th at the Grier memorial ARP Church Fellowship Hall. Meeting begins at 7:00; program starts at 7:30.

Donald Shockley,  
Vice President

## NEWS

As most of you know the clubs BBS went bye-bye recently. This was the topic of the recent Board of Directors meeting. The Board felt that this was a major plus for the club.

To repair the BBS it would cost approximately \$500. This would provide the same configuration that has given us so much trouble. (I commend Gene Funderburk for keeping the BBS up and running through these problems.)

The Board discussed a number of ideas and decided that it would best be left up to the members. There is a poll on page 6 of this newsletter that gives the options open to the club concerning the BBS. Please take the time to fill it out, or call Mary Ann Terminato or me with your opinion so the Board can take action.

Another matter involves the club database. It is outdated and needs updating badly. Please fill in the questionnaire on the bottom of page 6 and give it to Mary Ann or me. The last questions deal with your willingness to help this club. The nominating committee will be asking for people to help- let them know you want to help.

Ed Culbertson  
Editor



Gr.A.C.E.

The Greenville Atari Computer Enthusiasts is an independent, non-profit organization and user's group with no affiliation with Atari Corporation, or any other organization. Membership dues (family) is \$28.00 per year. Membership includes access to the club's public domain program library, subscription to the Gr.A.C.E. newsletter, and access to the club's electronic bulletin board, Amazin' Grace (803-268-0138).

The GrACE newsletter is published monthly by the Greenville Atari Computer Enthusiasts, 107 Saratoga Dr., Greer, SC 29651. Permission to reprint articles in any non-commercial publication is permitted without authorization, provided credit is given to the Greenville Atari Computer Enthusiasts and the author. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of Gr.A.C.E..

The GrACE newsletter will accept any articles by members on any topic found pertinent to the club. Articles will be accepted in any form, although word processing files uploaded to the club's BBS (268-0138) with a message left to Ed Culbertson or Mike Jett, Editors, are preferred.

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- PAPER	GENE FUNDERBURK	268-9177
BBS SYSOP	GENE FUNDERBURK	268-9177

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

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Take a moment and look at your mailing label on this issue of the 'GrACE NEWS'. Check the right-hand side of the label for the word 'DUES'. Just after this word are the month/year when your membership expires. Try to renew at least one month early. This helps us with the accounting and record keeping and also avoids your missing any issues of the newsletter.

There are two easy ways to renew:

1. At the monthly meeting talk to Doug Slagh the club treasurer and present him with \$20 (in cash or check).
2. Send your name and renewal (\$20) to:

Doug Slagh  
104 Burgoyne Court  
Greer, SC 29651



LIBRARY NEWS...

The September Disk-of-the-Month will be a two-sided disk once again. Some of the files are in the .ARCD format, so you will need ARCX12 to extract these files. There are also some TurboBASIC files that require TurboBASIC as well as the TurboBASIC RUNTIME.COM file.

Here's a list of programs on this month's disk:

1. HANGMAN.ARC - A Hangman game with an editor that will allow you to enter your own words.
2. EZTYPE.ARC - A utility that will allow you to set up one-key macros that will execute a string of keypresses.
3. RAMD78XL.ARC - A file that should be renamed to RAMDISK.COM for 256/320 K 130XE's. This will create a D7: and D8: ramdisk. I had a problem getting DOS 2.5 to format disks with this modification, but it may have been due to the drive I was using. Disks formatted with unmodified DOS 2.5 and then having RAMDISK.COM copied to it work fine.
4. NFLANYS2.ARC - The same type of program as was on last month's disk, but this time for the NFL teams instead of college.
5. DISKINDX.ARC - A disk indexing program. You input your own comments instead of choosing from a predefined list of descriptions as on previous disk indexing programs.
6. SETFAST.COM - A short file to be used with SpartaDOS and a Happy 1050 to allow the drive to write as well as read at warp speed. Should be set up in a STARTUP.BAT file.
7. AUTORUN.CTB - A menu program for use with TurboBASIC's RUNTIME.COM file. Be sure to have then RUNTIME.COM file on a disk (rename to AUTORUN.SYS), and this file. A menu will display all compiled TurboBASIC files with the .CTB extender and allow you to select which one to run.
8. SNAKBYTE.BAS - An Atari BASIC game that challenges your reflex speed. The object is to collect the venom without hitting the men, walls, or yourself. Watch out for the moving object. If it contacts your head, you loose a life. After collecting the required amounts of venom the trap door opens allowing you to go to the next level.
9. BINGO.TUR - A bingo game written in TurboBASIC (but not compiled). Will randomly choose numbers to call out, or allow you to print out bingo cards on a printer.
10. XAGON.OBJ - A machine language game similar to Q\*Bert. Starts slowly on the first level, but gets increasingly harder!
11. TWENTY1.BAS - An Atari BASIC game of twenty one.
12. DOOMSTAR.CTB - Destroy the enemy fighters in the trench of the Doomstar.
13. TURBOLST.CTB - A compiled TurboBASIC utility to list/print text files on the Star SG-10 printer.
14. PROLIST.CTB - A compiled



TurboBASIC utility to print program listings on a printer.

15. BBKARTST.OBJ - A machine language drawing program with over 25 different commands to choose from the drawing menu. From Analog #56.

That pretty much fills up the disk for this month. I would like to thank Jeff Edwards for his contribution of a 2-sided disk full of PrintShop icons. There are 240 icons on this disk!!! These are already in PrintShop format and are ready to load into the PrintShop program. There are some very nice icons on this disk. There will be copies available at the meeting. See you there!

George Nelson,  
8-Bit Librarian.

### RAMblings

#### TALK HARDWARE TO ME

ATARI announced a new, fast 5 1/4" disk drive for the XE line. It will come with a new DOS that is downward compatible. That is it can read disks written in DOS 2.0 or 2.5 format.

There has also been much ado about the XE game machine (sigh). Basically it's a Miami vice looking 65XE with some attachments such as a light gun. Mass retailers are excited about it and maybe it will bring about some increased software availability for the XE line because it is compatible. However, I seriously doubt that it will do anything positive for 8-bit productivity software.

The MEGA ST 2 and 4 have been released in Europe with the blitter chip and a new TOS. There is an internal fan and some extra popouts for adding an optional second hard disk controller and an external expansion bus. By the way, I have read that ATARI has tried to insure that all current ST programs will run with the blitter and new TOS. Only time will tell.

ICD has announced that they have developed some ST hard drives. The drives have a built in clock and interfaces for daisy chaining your old hard drives, slave hard drives, tape backups or Bernoulli boxes. The units come in 20, 30 or 40 megabyte configurations.

#### HOT OFF THE PRESSES

I can't believe what's happened to the price of printers. Most of the best dot matrix printers can now be purchased for well below \$200, some for less than \$150. If you don't have a printer or if you've been thinking about buying a new one, now may be the best time ever.

**HELP  
G.R.A.C.E.**

**WRITE  
FOR  
THE  
NEWS  
LETTER!-**



## NOT MY LEG YOU DON'T

Have you heard the rumors about a new computer that is under development. It is based on an entirely new type of memory called ISM and a new operating system called COS. It also sports an output port that no other computer has, not even the ST. ISM is short for Infinitely Selective Memory. ISM allows for the addressing of an infinite amount of facts and is reported to be mind boggling. COS, which stands for Covert Operation System, utilizes a user interface called Residual which was developed in Switzerland. It is supposed to be very powerful.

I understand however, that there are a few problems. ISM has a habit of losing critical areas of memory at a moments notice and COS has been known to ignore what the user wants and set up operations of its own using Residual. I have also heard that the only device that currently works correctly with the new port is a paper shredder.

The price has not been set but the company's motto is "The Buck Stops Here" so expect it to be very expensive.

## CAN YOU COUNT TO TWELVE IN ANALOG?

The winner of this month's CHIPPIE Award for "The Best Magazine in a Highly Erratic Series" is ANALOG Computing.

In case you didn't notice, the previous issue of ANALOG magazine had July/August on the cover. No explanation, just July/August. They didn't even send me two copies of the September issue to make up for it.

Ken Richardson

## MINUTES

August 18, 1987

The meeting was called to attention by John Disher at 7:30 PM.

Rhett Bryson gave us a short review of a new program for the ST called D Basic. The program is free, but the manual, which Rhett describes as humorous, costs \$49.00. The basic is said to be extremely fast and compiles as you go. It does not support GEM, has no special features (except speed), no run-time package and not compatible with other DOS.

Kevin Kingsmore discussed a new 1040 ST that will hook up to a TV and a 520 ST FM that has a built in disk drive.

Craig Tompkins did an admirable job of reviewing TOUCHDOWN FOOTBALL although the program would not load on the club's computer. The cost of the program is \$14.95 and seemed to be a very realistic simulation. Craig felt it was worth the money, when it would load. Thanks, Craig, for hanging in there and carrying on in a less-than-great situation.

Kevin Kingsmore gave us some highlights of PC DITTO, which sells for \$89.95 and will run most IBM programs. He seemed to be pleased with its performance and hopes to demo it for us soon.

Another highlight of the evening came from Kevin when he demonstrated COMPUTEREYES for the ST. The program sells for around \$249.00; and if you have never seen it demonstrated, you are truly missing out. The results were very good, and on the screen (in my opinion) almost photographic quality. We did have some fun moving around and creating many "wild and crazy" results.







Gr.A.C.E. Membership FOR AUGUST, 1987

ACE, BLUE RIDGE	UNKNOWN
ANDERSON, JAMES H.	877-8879
ANDREWS, JIM	UNKNOWN
BARABAS, JOEL & SANDRA	877-2408
BECKETT, SANFORD	654-7987
BAYSON, RHETT	246-3107
BYRD, RAY	574-3913
CANNON, DENNIS	285-8791
DOCHRAN, PRESTON	879-4501
COMP. CLUB, SAN LEONARD	UNKNOWN
COMPUTING, A.N.A.L.O.G.	UNKNOWN
COOPER, JAMES P.	246-5793
CORP, CONCURRENT TECH.	834-9035
COURATIER, JOHN P.	244-2190
CRIBBS, WANDA	552-2827
CULBERTSON, ED	877-0548
DAVIS, ELLIOT	-----
DAY, CHARLES E.	269-2874
DAY, GARY	246-9008
DISHER, JOHN S.	246-8867
EDWARDS, JEFF	834-5488
EILER, JUSTIN	-----
EXCHANGE, JACS NEWSLET.	N/A
EXPLORER, ATARI	UNKNOWN
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FLETCHER, GEORGE	288-8782
FREEMAN, DENNIS & LINDA	859-7228
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GRIGG, DANIEL	---
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KALPIN, JACK	292-0953
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LAM, DR. CARLOS F.	-----
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MULLINAX, DONNA	855-5517
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McFARLANE, JIM	292-0890
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MADE, KC-	-----
NELSON, GEORGE H.	292-2355
POSEY, TOM	-----
PRESS, POKEY	N/A
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PUBLISHING, ANTIC	-----
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REDD, STEPHEN D.	855-0840
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ROSELL, PAUL	268-4774
ROBERTSON, THOMAS J.	957-7457
SALLEY, LARRY	268-3365
SCHAKE, RICHARD E.	224-8487
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SHOCKLEY, DON	855-5218
SHOCKLEY, WALTER	397-8775
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SMITH, ROGER	694-3615
SOKOL, JOHN J.	288-1679
STARR, SHARON	963-3253
STORA, RICK	UNKNOWN
TALBERT, MIKE	297-6543
TERMINATO, MARY ANNE	292-0130
TOMPKINS, ALVIN A.	292-3246
TOWNSEND, T. W.	-----
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VAUGHN, JACK	834-7524
WAGNER, WILLIAM	246-0957
WANG, SAM	654-5456
WATERS (NOVATARI), JOE	N/A
WINES, JOHN S.	578-3917
WOODRUM, PAUL J.	277-5821

